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LETTER DATED 4 MAY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijani Republic, dated 4 May 1993, which has been received by telex.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Azerbaijani Republic

On 30 April 1993, in response to an appeal by the Azerbaijani Republic, the United Nations Security Council considered the critical situation resulting from the aggression by Armenian armed forces and their seizure of Azerbaijani territories, and adopted resolution 822 (1993).

As the victim of aggression by the Republic of Armenia, the Azerbaijani Republic greatly appreciates the efforts of the Security Council to bring about an end to the aggression and the liberation of the occupied Azerbaijani territories.

By reaffirming the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the inviolability of international borders and the inadmissibility of the use of force for the acquisition of territory, the Security Council clearly defined the basis for security and stability in the region. The Security Council resolution, which simply and emphatically demands the "immediate withdrawal of all occupying forces from the Kelbadjar district and other recently occupied areas of Azerbaijan", leaves the aggressor no other course but to withdraw its forces beyond the borders of the Azerbaijani Republic and abandon its expansionist policy.

Now that the Security Council resolution has been adopted, the Azerbaijani Republic, and with it the whole world community, expects the Armenian leaders, realizing their full responsibility for the violations of international law which they have committed, to take all the necessary measures for the implementation of the resolution.

Only strict compliance by the Armenian side with the demands of this influential international organ will permit the resumption of the negotiating process within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe aimed at a comprehensive settlement of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, a process which has been undermined by the aggression and occupation.

This resolution was the first decision by the Security Council on the question of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan and, although it does not cover all aspects and the scale and consequences of Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan, it nevertheless gives the Azerbaijani Republic hope that its rights as a sovereign State Member of the United Nations, which have been flouted, will be protected by the world community.

In view of the conditions in which the resolution was adopted, the Azerbaijani Republic is convinced that the future work of the Security Council, reinforced by the intensified activities of the fact-finding mission, will lead to the adoption of the necessary decisions on the basis of an objective appraisal of the real causes and nature of the tragic events and of the responsibility of the party through whose fault they have occurred. The Azerbaijani Republic, in turn, is prepared to offer its full cooperation to that end.